

ER 61-5367/b

*Handwritten signature*  
Dr. George N. Shuster  
Assistant to the President  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana

Dear Dr. Shuster:

Thank you for the opportunity to look over  
the Projected Program for Latin America Studies  
enclosed in your letter of 27 June.

The program objectives are commendable, and  
I wish you every success in putting it into effect.  
The method you have chosen for meeting them promises  
to keep the program alive and continuously oriented  
towards emergent trends and developments in this  
very important part of our hemisphere. I like your  
idea of periodic field reporting, backed up by con-  
tinuing evaluation of the product at the University.  
The results of such a program, undoubtedly, would be  
useful to governmental as well as academic interests  
in this area.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

STAT

*Scutten* : O/DCI [ ] rap(12 July 61)

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*Orig. version concurred  
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61-3367/b

Dr. George N. Shuster  
Assistant to the President  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana

Dear Dr. Shuster:

Thank you for the opportunity to look over the "Projected Program for Latin America Studies" enclosed in your letter of 27 June. I think your program is well conceived and I wish you every success in putting it into effect.

The program objectives are commendable. The method you have chosen for meeting them promises to keep the program alive and continuously oriented towards emergent trends and developments in this very important part of our hemisphere.

I like your idea of periodic field reporting, backed up by continuing evaluation of the product at the University. I would suggest that your evaluators at the University remain constantly alert for any changes in the orientation and objectivity of individual correspondents.

I hope you will soon be able to tell me that the program has been approved and that the work has begun. The results of such a program, undoubtedly, would be useful to governmental as well as academic interests in this area.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

ORIGINATED BY

CONCURRENCE

L. K. White

Deputy Director (Support)

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Approved For Release 2003/11/04 : CIA-RDP80B01676R003500240007-3 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

The attached proposed letter to Dr. George N. Shuster, Assistant to the President, University of Notre Dame, is a follow-up reply to his letter to you dated 27 June enclosing a copy of the paper entitled, "Projected Program for Latin America Studies. "

Recommend your signature.



L. K. White  
Deputy Director  
(Support)

10 JUL 1961

cc: DDCI

(DATE)

University of Notre Dame

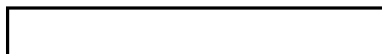
Notre Dame, Indiana

Assistant to the President

Cable Address "Dulac"

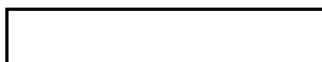
July 7, 1961

STAT



Executive Officer  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

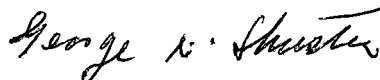
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Thank you for your letter. I shall appreciate  
hearing from you at a later date.

Please extend my best wishes to Mr. Dulles.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George N. Shuster".

George N. Shuster  
Assistant to the President

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, Indiana

Executive Registry
61-5367

Assistant to the President

Cable Address "Dulac"

June 27, 1961

Mr. Allen W. Dulles  
Office of the Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Thank you for your letter, which was waiting for me when I came back from a long series of meetings of the Executive Board of UNESCO. On this I represent the United States; and though the forum is much less significant than is that of the UN, we go through pretty much the same maneuvers in so far as our "friends" are concerned.

I really dislike bothering you about our project, but it does seem to me significant. It is difficult to win Foundations over to the idea of constant sociological coverage, as is suggested here, though they all agree that something of the kind would be worth while. As you will see, we are proposing as a basis a continuing stream of comment from the scene, as well as a continuing correlation and evaluation of the results.

I may add that the correspondents we have at our command are people who know Latin America very well and live there. We would, of course, include as time went on certain newcomers from this country, just in order to get the advantage of a "fresh look." But by and large those we count on are professional people, journalists, teachers, labor representatives, and some missionaries. Some would be Latin Americans, others foreigners, so called. They would, of course, be motivated by a sincere commitment to freedom.

I am enclosing the outline as well as a copy of a letter received from Adolf Berle.

With every good wish to you in your supremely difficult task.

Sincerely yours,

*George N. Shuster*

George N. Shuster  
Assistant to the President

Encs.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 22, 1961.

My dear George:

Thank you for your letter of May 8 and for the enclosure outlining your Latin American project. I think it is first-rate.

It is perhaps more important than you think. In our relations with Latin Americans, North Americans forget a cardinal point. In Latin America, a philosophical objective, or thesis, is essential. It is not enough to foster health, or social reform, or a rising standard of living, excellent as these are. They are merely economic and social means to an end, not an end in themselves. The end, of course, is a conception of the good man, the good life, and the good society. This is one reason why Communist proselyting has been relatively successful. It does have a philosophical synthesis, though to my mind a bad one.

A Catholic university does recognize the necessity of a philosophical synthesis and its habits of mind should be receptive to the necessity. It could suggest such syntheses, along with the programs of action which you indicate the Latin American Studies program would like to work out. A progressive and open-minded Catholic university can be of immense use.

With kindest regards, I am,

Cordially,

Dr. George N. Shuster,  
Assistant to the President,    Adolf A. Berle  
University of Notre Dame,        Chairman,  
Notre Dame, Indiana.    Task Force on Latin America.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles

SUBJECT: Brief of Dr. Shuster's Program for Latin American  
Studies at Notre Dame

Dr. Shuster feels that Notre Dame is uniquely fitted to carry out a program for Latin American studies. He points out that Notre Dame has a new inter-disciplinary undergraduate course designed to present in broad outline certain dominant problems of the Southern hemisphere, a course in Latin-American literature, and at irregular intervals a small but qualitatively good amount of research done under the auspices of the University's Committee on International Relations.

The purposes of the program would be two:

- a. to develop a dependable research basis for study of and the gaining of insight into the social, political and over-all economic conditions prevailing in the Latin-American countries;
- b. to make possible the training of persons who would be either concerned with putting this information to practical use in Government, or in Latin-American educational, journalistic or social welfare activities.

To carry out this program Dr. Shuster proposes to recruit 120 persons to serve as correspondents from a wide area of Central and Hemispheric Latin America. They would be educators, journalists, professional people and mission workers. After some training in method, these correspondents would write monthly commentaries on the scene as they surveyed it at first hand, and supplement these commentaries with pertinent documentary material. Such reporting would be remarkably free of commitments to partisan or class interests, and would reflect the views of unusually competent and dedicated persons.

The proposed program would have an annual budget of \$171,000.

AAB

13 July 1961

**A PROJECTED PROGRAM**  
**for**  
**Latin-American Studies**  
**at**  
**Notre Dame**

Latin-American programs at universities and colleges generally have been dying on the vine for some years. That established at Notre Dame is no exception. Perhaps the major reasons for this dessication have been two: first, it was seldom possible to convince undergraduates that professional preparation in Latin American studies is either as interesting or potentially as remunerative, in all senses, as programs concerned with Western Europe, Asia, or Russia; and second, the traditional approaches have seemed to lack reality in the contemporary world.

At Notre Dame, the work done may be said to consist at the present time of three things: [a new inter-disciplinary undergraduate course designed to present in broad outline certain dominant problems of the Southern hemisphere; a course in Latin-American literature; and, at irregular intervals, a small but qualitatively good amount of research done under the auspices of the University's Committee on International Relations.] A modest but not negligible library of the basic literature in history and geography (including economic geography) has been accumulated, and the University also possesses certain valuable archival materials bearing on relations between the United States and Latin America, primarily from the



religious point of view. There are, as there have been during the past forty years, a sizable number of Latin American students in residence on the campus, and some are also to be found on the neighboring campus of St. Mary's College.

It is now felt that opportunity has been given and that impetus exists to develop a quite different, much more vital, program which Notre Dame University would be uniquely fitted to carry out. The purposes would be two:

a) to develop a dependable research basis for study of and the gaining of insight into the social, political and over-all economic conditions prevailing in the Latin-American countries, the ideas concerning reform which are sponsored by those who disapprove of such conditions, and the attitudes which as a result are created and fostered towards the United States, the USSR, and the revolutionary movements which conform with Spanish revolutionary tradition; and

b) to make possible the training of persons who would be either concerned with putting this information to practical use in Government, or in Latin-American educational, journalistic or social welfare activities, or who would be trained to teach Latin American subjects of a contemporary interest and character in colleges and secondary schools, either in general or in specialized courses. In addition, opportunity for scholarly inquiry would be provided.

## I.

By reason of personnel resources which are specially available to it for several important reasons, Notre Dame is in touch with the existing situation. These resources are derived from Latin-America itself, from the United States and from European countries, notably Germany, which last country finds particularly easy access to several countries. Thus there is already constituted a network of relatively well-trained experts in a variety of fields who will cooperate in trying to diagnose urgent problems, work for solutions, and attempt to bring about a pro-democratic orientation.

It will, therefore, easily be possible to recruit, say, 120 persons to serve as correspondents from a wide area of Central and Hemispheric Latin America. They would be educators, journalists, professional people and mission workers. Predominatingly they would be lay people, though they might also be clerics or religious. For the most part they would have their fingers continuously on the pulse of the life of the time. They would be close to the needs and aspirations of the masses. After some training in method, these correspondents would write monthly commentaries on the scene as they surveyed it at first hand, and supplement these commentaries with pertinent documentary material. Such reporting would be remarkably free of commitments to partisan or class interests, and would reflect the views of unusually competent and dedicated persons. Their orientation would be soundly pro-democratic. Above all, perhaps, they would blanket virtually the whole of Latin America.

The cost of the operation would be minimal, in view of the character of the potential organization. It is realistically estimated that the individual would not require more than \$250 annually, to reimburse him or her for materials, postage and necessary expenditures. If 120 were employed, the total annual cost would therefore be \$60,000. Though some errors in the initial selection might be made, it is confidently anticipated that these would be few in number.

No comparable system of grass-roots reporting could be devised for any sum not immensely larger. Nor could any other group command in equal measure the respect and cooperation of Latin-Americans. While it would not neglect the upper strata of the population, it would only in part reflect the attitudes of those strata. It may be added that modest beginning has already been made in the organization of the group. In all probability this could be completed within six months.

## IX.

How would the documentation thus accumulated be used? Control, organization and analysis would be centralized at Notre Dame University.

The manner of organization and control is visualized as follows:

There would be appointed as Director a Latin American scholar of great repute, well-trained in a pertinent Social Science and interested in the methodology suggested. Such a scholar is available.

There would also be appointed a "liaison officer." The person in question would be a man who has a wide first-hand knowledge of Central, Caribbean and Hemispheric Latin America. He would also have profited by experience in cooperating with government agencies.

It is planned to name four traveling Fellows, two of whom would go from the United States to Latin America while two would come from Latin America to the United States. These would study and report on aspects of the existing situation.

There would be need for an expert bibliographer and a competent secretary, versed if possible in English, Spanish and German.

Finally there would be a number of workers on the project, some recruited on a part-time basis from the Faculty and others employed as Graduate Assistants or Fellows. It would be their duty to analyze and organize the documentation.

It may be added as a postscript that there would be an Advisory Committee.

### III.

The results to be anticipated from a Research Center thus established would be several and notable. Two may be pointed out especially. First, it would make possible scholarly inquiry and publication of an unconventional kind. The themes would no doubt be predominately

sociological or political in character, but might also be derived from education, the arts and religion. Many of such investigations could no doubt be more fruitfully pursued at Notre Dame than anywhere else, both because the University has institutional ties with Latin America and because there is a fairly constant influx of Latin American educators and observers, many of them unusually competent and aware of present-day conditions and problems. The University Administration is aware at first hand of the scene to the South and is remarkably open of mind.

Second, it would also provide a dependable basis for graduate instruction. This could be correlated with the work of a number of departments, including perhaps Business Administration, History, the Humanities, Sociology and Philosophy. It might also serve to prepare the way intelligently for the development of the "Peace Corps."

Apart from these things, would be the continuing interest and significance of the data assembled for agencies, public and private, concerned with Latin America. It should be possible to chart, on the basis of pertinent inquiries and analyses, developments of a social and political character and perhaps even to suggest programs of action. Through subsequent cooperation with Latin American universities, contributions to a variety of pedagogical and artistic undertakings could be made. In all probability the groundwork could also be laid for radio and television exchange with Latin America.

Indeed, barring upheavals of a major kind, the value of the documentation thus assembled and digested might well prove to be so

great that by the end of a three-year period the enterprise would be self-sustaining from an economic point of view, quite apart from revenues accruing for academic services. Meanwhile there would have grown up at Notre Dame a Center of Latin American Studies which would easily meet all foreseeable requirements in the area served.

Imaginably a fruitful corollary to such studies would be inquiry into comparable areas of interest in the "mother countries" of Spain and Portugal. These are now relatively neglected areas in so far as American scholarship is concerned. It would seem quite probable that young men and women trained in Latin American studies could easily and profitably transfer their interests to these parts of Europe. The emphasis would continue to be on the modern social and political scene.

Meanwhile the University could supplement its Library resources of a more traditional kind. Though doing so will be relatively impractical until the new Library has been completed, this is expected to be in use before the three-year period ends.

#### IV.

While the Center would enjoy a large measure of autonomy, overall University direction is assured through the planned grouping of all research activities under a central control.

The Staff concerned with the existing small program in Latin American Studies is not large but is well qualified. It

includes: Dr. Fredrick B. Pike (Ph.D., University of Texas), historian; Dr. William V. D'Antonio (Ph.D., Michigan State University), sociologist; Dr. Paul A. Montavon (Ph.D., Catholic University of America), economist; Dr. William J. Grupp (Ph.D., Cornell University), Chairman, Department of Modern Languages; and Mr. Walter M. Langford (M.M.I., University of Mexico), Latin American Culture. Other members of the Faculty are acquainted with misological and pedagogical aspects of the Latin American scene.

**ANNUAL BUDGET****Salaries:**

Director	\$14,000
Officer of Liaison	8,500
Bibliographer	8,500
Secretary	7,000

**Expenditures:**

Correspondents	\$60,000
Faculty members, part-time Fellows, Graduate Assistants	\$40,000
Travel	\$10,000
Materials	\$ 5,000
Expenses, Advisory Committee	\$ 1,000
University Participation (10%)	\$17,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$171,000
Three Years	\$514,000